

L.America to discuss Palestine

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Representatives of Latin American governments, inter-governmental bodies and private agencies will meet in Nicaragua next week to prepare for an international conference on Palestine scheduled to be held in Paris in August, the U.N. said Wednesday. The five-day Managua session, opening on Monday, will be the latest in a series of regional gatherings arranged by the United Nations, which is sponsoring the conference. Delegates will discuss the legal status of the Palestinians, their economic activity and access to national resources, and the exercise of their legal right to self-determination. The U.N. said the aim of the regional meetings was to obtain the active involvement of governments in preparations for the conference to be held at UNESCO headquarters in Paris.

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Peking-Cairo arms deal concluded

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak concluded an \$80 million military deal during his visit last week to China, a weekly magazine reported here Wednesday. The Al Mawsawwar magazine said the military deal would be repayable over a long period but gave no further details. China has already sold Egypt some 60 F-6 and more than 30 F-7 fighter planes, the Chinese version of the Soviet MiG 19 and 21 aircraft, and provides spare parts for Soviet weapons which would otherwise have become obsolete since a Soviet freeze on supplies in 1973.

Tunisia gets summit invitation

TUNIS (R) — Moroccan Foreign Minister Mohammed Boucetta Wednesday delivered an invitation to President Habib Bouquiba of Tunisia to attend a special Arab summit meeting in Morocco this month. The Tunisian news agency TAP quoted Mr. Boucetta as saying the summit would examine urgent Arab problems and the results of Arab League missions to the five permanent members of the Security Council. Informed sources said the summit was planned for April 16 and 17. Moroccan envoys are visiting other Arab capitals.

Bomb kills 1 in South Lebanon

SIDON (R) — A man was killed Tuesday night when a bomb he was carrying near an Israeli post exploded, security sources said. Residents said Israeli forces, which occupy South Lebanon, sealed off the area and prevented fishermen from working there. They said the dead man was a Palestinian who had been detained during the Israeli invasion and held at the Ansar detention camp in South Lebanon for four months. He had been suffering from partial paralysis, they added. Residents also said that Israeli forces early Wednesday raided Jha village in the Nabatieh area of South Lebanon searching for wanted people. They arrested at least one man.

Junblatt holds talks in Madrid

MADRID (Agencies) — Lebanese leftist and Druze leader Walid Junblatt had talks here Wednesday with Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez. Mr. Junblatt, leader of Lebanon's Progressive Socialist Party, left later for Portugal for a congress of the Socialist International.

British seamen seize 2 vessels

LONDON (R) — A dispute between British merchant seamen and the government worsened Wednesday when seamen announced they had taken over two cargo ships and might seize more. A spokesman for the National Union of Seamen said they had taken over the cargo ship Browning in the east England port of Harwich and the Almeira Star in the French port of Brest. The union was retaliating over the British government's decision last week to put a naval crew aboard the troopship Keren because the civilian crew was involved in a pay dispute.

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Arafat briefs Sheikh Jaber on peace efforts Palestinian leaders hold talks in Kuwait

KUWAIT (Agencies) — Palestinian leaders held a surprise meeting Wednesday in Kuwait to consider joint moves with Jordan in efforts for Middle East peace, Palestinian sources said.

The sources said delegates were summoned to the meeting by Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, who arrived Tuesday from Amman after four days of talks with King Hussein.

Mr. Arafat and King Hussein have been holding intensive talks to establish a joint negotiating position in Arab and international efforts for Middle East peace.

Wednesday's meeting was attended by almost all the PLO Executive Committee and by Nayef Hawatmeh of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the sources said.

Earlier on Wednesday, Mr. Arafat briefed the Kuwait ruler, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah on his talks in Amman. Palestinian sources said Mr. Arafat and Sheikh Jaber discussed a peace proposal for Middle East announced by U.S. President Ronald Reagan



Yasser Arafat

as well as an Arab plan adopted by the Fez Arab summit last September.

The PLO chairman also met with Moroccan envoy Ahmad Ibn Souda to discuss the prospects of holding an Arab summit later this month.

Mr. Ibn Souda arrived Tuesday with an invitation from King Hassan to the Kuwaiti ruler to attend the proposed summit.

The Kuwaiti News Agency later quoted PLO Executive Committee member Yasser Abd Rabbo as saying: "We urge the proposed summit to come out with a common stand towards the Reagan plan and the U.S. policy... which we believe is basically antagonistic towards the Palestinians."

Wednesday's meeting came amid a flurry of diplomatic activity to give momentum to the Middle East peace process.

PLO sources said the head of the PLO Political Department, Farouk Kaddoumi, and another Executive Committee member, Abdul Rahim Ahmad, were due to leave Kuwait for Baghdad Thursday as part of consultations with other Arab states.

Mr. Arafat is expected to visit Saudi Arabia before returning to Amman for fresh talks with Jordanian leaders.

Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad), a senior Arafat aide will leave for other Arab countries, the sources said.

Peres tries to block PLO role in Socialist International

LISBON (R) — The Middle East conflict cast a shadow Wednesday over preparations for a Socialist International congress this week as the Israeli Labour Party fought to exclude the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) from the gathering.

The international's bureau was expected to try Wednesday to end a dispute over the accreditation of a PLO representative invited to the congress in southern Portugal by its chairman, former West German Chancellor Willy Brandt.

Israeli Labour Party leader Shimon Peres has been in Spain since Sunday having talks with Socialist Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez and lobbying to prevent any PLO participation at

the four-day congress which begins Thursday near the Portuguese seaside resort of Albufeira.

Former Portuguese Premier Mario Soares said there was no question of the Socialist International officially recognising the PLO at the congress, but he expressed confidence a way would be found of allowing the Palestinian envoy to take part.

A report to be submitted to the congress by Mr. Soares, however, calls for deeper contacts with the PLO and praises the role of its chairman, Yasser Arafat.

Mr. Soares met Mr. Arafat and Israeli and Lebanese leaders after being named to head a special Socialist International committee set up to report on last year's Israeli

invasion of Lebanon.

The committee's report, accidentally distributed to the Portuguese press, said it was not possible to establish any dialogue with the Palestinians except through the PLO.

It described Mr. Arafat as an effective leader with a real sense of responsibility and "with whom one can and should speak". This week's congress will bring together Socialist leaders from the non-Communist world, including the Spanish premier, Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme, Finnish Premier Kalevi Sorsa, British Labour Party leader Michael Foot and Italian Socialist leader Bettino Craxi.

Gulf launches crisis talks on oil slick

KUWAIT (R) — Eight Gulf ministers, including those from warring Iran and Iraq, held crisis talks in Kuwait Wednesday on fighting oil pollution in the Gulf caused by shattered Iranian wells.

The ministers met Wednesday morning in an effort to work out an agreement guaranteeing the safety of crews who must enter the war zone to cap the wells, in the Nowruz field at the head of the Gulf.

The session ended without agreement and the ministers from Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Iran were meeting again in the afternoon, a conference spokesman said.

Kuwait Health Minister Abdul Rahman Al Awadi said Tuesday

an Iraqi-Iranian understanding was needed to guarantee the safety of the repair crews.

Iranian Deputy Prime Minister Reza Mirza Taheri said Iran would plug the wells if Wednesday's conference provided necessary safety guarantees.

Conference spokesman Abdul Latif Al Zaidan later said the formal opening of the conference had been put off until Thursday morning.

"The ministers are still negotiating," he said without elaborating.

U.N. Undersecretary-General Diego Cordovez was due in Kuwait Wednesday night to offer United Nations help.

The eight Gulf countries are members of a regional org-

anisation for the protection of marine environment, which called the extraordinary conference to discuss ways to fight the slick, now threatening marine life and industrial installations.

Mr. Taheri said about 2,000 barrels of oil a day were pouring from the wells, although industry experts believe up to 7,000 barrels may be leaking.

The offshore wells at depths of 25 metres were damaged between January and March this year.

The Gulf states, some of which depend on sea water to provide drinking water, have mobilised men and equipment to combat the slick, which is fragmented along the Gulf, almost to the Strait of Hormuz.

Mubarak, Nakasone discuss Mideast

TOKYO (R) — Visiting Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone Wednesday discussed the Middle East and the two leaders agreed that the time is ripe for a settlement of the Palestinian question.

Foreign Ministry official Yoshio Karita told reporters that Mr. Mubarak also accepted an offer of increased Japanese loans.

Mr. Mubarak arrived here Tuesday from North Korea after an earlier visit to Peking. He goes to Indonesia on Saturday on the last leg of his four-nation Asian tour.

Mr. Nakasone told Mr. Mubarak he believed that the latest U.S. proposal for a Middle East settlement and the Arab charter drawn up in Fez, Morocco, last September both provided a basis for solving the Middle East problem.

He said it was important for Is-

rael, Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), to reach an agreement soon.

Japan has a vital interest in seeing an early settlement because about 70 per cent of Japanese oil imports come from the Middle East.

Mr. Mubarak said he regretted that Jordan had not yet agreed to take part in peace negotiations and stressed that if the "Camp David" accord collapsed there could be renewed conflict in the Middle East, the official said.

On Wednesday, at a dinner given by Mr. Nakasone, the Egyptian president said in a speech that Israel was illegally extending settlements on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and depriving Palestinians of their civil rights.

He also accused Israel of oppression and violence against civilians in the occupied areas.

Referring to the Israeli military

presence in Lebanon, he said: "It is necessary for a legitimate government of our Arab brother nation to exercise its sovereignty over its entire territory without any fear of the inducement of internal strife by an outside power or foreign intervention."

The offer of a 50 billion yen (\$210 million) loan in development aid to Egypt was for the 1982 fiscal year and compared with \$46 billion yen (\$194 million) for 1981.

Mr. Mubarak and Mr. Nakasone would issue a joint statement on the Middle East on Wednesday.

The official said Mr. Nakasone accepted an invitation from Mr. Mubarak to visit Egypt but no date was set.

Earlier, Mr. Mubarak had an audience and lunch with Emperor Hirohito.

U.S.: Unique moment for peace in Mideast

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Now is a unique moment to revitalise the Middle East peace process, the United States said Tuesday in an appeal to seize the chance.

State Department spokesman John Hughes said: "King Hussein has taken the lead in recognising the opportunity currently available for revitalising the peace process."

"We hope that others as well will recognise that this is a unique moment which must be seized before it is lost, and that they will support the King in his desire to move toward peace."

The call coincided with the start of a tour of Arab states by Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat after he had talks in Amman with King Hussein.

"What is needed is a prompt move to the negotiating table," Mr. Hughes said.

"It is only there that a solution to the Palestinian problem in all its aspects can be found. In our view, the president's Sept. 1 initiative, based on U.N. Security Council Resolution 242, provides the best means for accomplishing that goal," he said.

The spokesman declined specific comment on four days of talks between King Hussein and Mr. Arafat.

"There were reports (this) morning that Mr. Arafat left Amman abruptly," Mr. Hughes noted. "On the other hand, there were very upbeat reports about what he said on arrival at his next port of call" in Kuwait.

"I think it is too early to determine what the mood is," the spokesman said. "The process of consultation, as we understand it, is continuing."

Mr. Hughes refused to accept one reporter's characterisation that the Hussein-Arafat consultations were over.

"There has been some sug-

gestion that he might return to Amman later in the week," Mr. Hughes said of the PLO chairman. "As I understand it, Mr. Arafat and King Hussein will have further contact."

Asked why he had chosen the phrase "unique moment" to describe the current state of preparations for broadened peace negotiations, Mr. Hughes noted that there has been widespread talk of deadlines although the United States has tended to discount them.

"It seems to me that there is a good deal of discussion that has taken place," he said. "King Hussein has been talking to people. Mr. Arafat has been talking to people. And I think there has been a sense that those talks are coming to a conclusion."

The spokesman emphasised that, "one is always hopeful that King Hussein will make his announcement to come to the table as early as possible."

Even if the moment is not seized, Mr. Hughes said, the United States would continue in its efforts.

In his Sept. 1 "fresh start" peace initiative, the president said the United States would not support an independent Palestinian state on the West Bank and Gaza. Instead, he called for an exchange of territory for peace and West Bank and Gaza self rule by the Palestinians in association with Jordan.

The president also called for a freeze in the creation of new Israeli settlements in the occupied territories and a freeze in the expansion of existing settlements.

In response to questions, Mr. Hughes said the United States has no evidence that there has been any freeze on settlement activities.

But he also emphasised the president has not changed his Sept. 1 position. At that time, the president said the settlements were an obstacle to peace.

Fahoum: PNC membership will be increased

AMMAN (J.T.) — The number of members in the Palestine National Council (PNC), the Palestinian parliament-in-exile, will be increased next week to 70 from the present 66, PNC Speaker Khaled Al Fahoum was quoted as saying by local newspapers Wednesday.

Mr. Fahoum, who left for Damascus Tuesday after participating in talks between Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Jordanian officials on joint moves in efforts of peace in the Middle East, was quoted as saying the revised PNC will hold its first session in a month's time.

All Palestinian movements are represented in the PNC, in addition to independent members and five members representing Palestinian federations and institutions.

A memorandum on the conditions of Palestinians living under Israeli occupation and the latest Middle East developments will be submitted to an Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU) meeting to be held in Helsinki on April 24, Mr. Fahoum said.

The PNC will also take part in the Arab Parliamentary Union (APU) meeting to be held in Baghdad on May 23, the speaker said.

Islamic clergy to meet in Iraq

BAGHDAD (R) — Some 280 Muslim clergymen from 50 countries are due to meet in Iraq next week for a conference which will be dominated by the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq.

Sources close to a committee preparing for the conference, to be held from April 14 to 17, said a delegation of Iranian opposition figures was expected to attend.

They said the slogan for the meeting would be "towards a Unified Action that Will Fortify Islamic Solidarity" and the main topic for discussion would be the Gulf war.

Sheikh Ali Kashif Al Ghitia, a Shi'ite Muslim leader in Iraq, was quoted Wednesday by the official daily Al Jumhoriya as saying that division in the Islamic World made the conference vital.

Israeli soldiers reject invasion honours

AMMAN (J.T.) — A large number of Israeli officers and soldiers who took part in last June's invasion of Lebanon have signed a document requesting the government to exempt them from receiving honours conferred on all those who participated in the invasion, the Israeli daily Haaretz reported Tuesday.

Haaretz said that the signatories belong to an army group calling itself "No for the Decorations," which refuses to receive honours for participating in a war they considered unnecessary.

"We trained us to defend our homeland when it is exposed to danger and never to resort to the use of arms unless all other alternatives prove fruitless, and

Ghali urges speed in peace efforts

PARIS (R) — Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Ghali, expressing concern at the slow pace of Middle East peace moves, said Wednesday he wants Washington to step up efforts to get foreign troops out of Lebanon. Mr. Ghali, on a two-day state visit to France, told reporters after meeting French President Francois Mitterrand that Paris and Cairo agreed that the Middle East peace process should be accelerated. "Egypt is extremely concerned by the fact that the peace process is unable to get anything moving in Lebanon or concerning the negotiations which were supposed to take place on the future of the Palestinian territories," Mr. Ghali said. But he said France and Egypt agreed that their joint Middle East peace plan, which called for an independent Palestinian state with security guarantees for countries in the region, should continue to take a back seat to U.S. efforts.

Ustinov warns U.S.

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union will retaliate directly against United States territory if it is attacked with European-based cruise and Pershing missiles, Defence Minister Dmitry Ustinov said Wednesday.

Marshal Ustinov, currently visiting East Germany, threatened that a Soviet retaliatory strike against West European countries from which U.S. missiles were launched would be the final one for most of them.

The official TASS news agency quoted him as saying in a speech to East German soldiers that the U.S. was planning to deploy Pershing and cruise missiles in Europe in order to heighten its own chances of survival.

He said the U.S. was "actually offering its NATO allies as targets for nuclear retaliation, making them the hostages of its nuclear strategy."

Marshal Ustinov said: "This

return strike may turn out to be the final one for most of the West European countries in which American nuclear weapons are to be deployed. This should always be remembered by the governments of the Western countries."

The Soviet minister went on to declare that if the U.S. used its new missiles "the United States will not go unpunished."

He added: "If in Washington they think that we will retaliate only against targets in Western Europe if Pershings and cruise missiles are used, they badly delude themselves. Retaliation against the United States will be inevitable."

Marshal Ustinov said the Soviet Union did not want an arms race but was forced to take necessary measures in order to "avoid giving the imperialists an advantage which will enable them to dictate terms beneficial to them."

Ex-mayor of Halhoul says Japanese moving towards official PLO recognition

AMMAN (J.T.) — The deported mayor of the Israeli-occupied West Bank town of Halhoul, Mohammad Milhem, has said that relations between the Palestinians and Japan have improved over the years and Tokyo will soon announce its official recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Mr. Milhem, who visited Tokyo recently at the invitation of the Japanese Foreign Ministry, told reporters upon his return to Amman that the Japanese "now understand the Palestinian problem" and "the near future will witness a noticeable development in Palestinian-Japanese relations, not merely by statements but rather through practical steps that will express the Japanese stand in

support of the Palestinian people's rights," Mr. Milhem said.

Mr. Milhem said that during his visit he met with Japanese ministers, key politicians and parliament members "who showed their interest and understanding of the just Arab causes."

In his talks, Mr. Milhem said he spoke about the "sufferings of the Palestinian people and Israel's confiscation of Arab territory for building Zionist settlements."

"I felt a genuine commitment on the part of the Japanese government to support a just and durable Middle East settlement and a condemnation of Israel's settlement policies which constitute a stumbling block in path of peace," Mr. Milhem said.

Kremlin reacts angrily to expulsions...

MOSCOW (R) — In a report indicating deep Kremlin anger at France's expulsion of 47 Soviet diplomats and officials, Moscow Wednesday rejected charges that they had been involved in espionage.

In the first direct comment on the affair from Moscow, the official news agency TASS said the move against the Soviets had been "absolutely arbitrary" and said Paris "would be responsible for damage to Franco-Soviet relations."

Moscow-based French diplomats and journalists said there had been no sign so far of retaliation by the Soviet authorities and no hint of what action they might take.

The brief TASS report was couched in bitter terms which clearly reflected intense Soviet anger with the French government over the expulsions.

Paris said the officials had been involved in gathering military, scientific and industrial secrets.

But TASS said they had been ordered out of France "without any grounds and under obviously fabricated pretexts which are totally at odds with reality."

Western diplomats in Moscow said the affair was likely to terminate the special relationship between Paris and Moscow over most of the past 20 years, during which criticism of Paris has been rare in the Soviet media.

While press and television have

carried major campaigns against U.S., British and West German military programmes, for example, France's development of its nuclear and conventional forces was almost entirely ignored.

Diplomats from other West European embassies said it would probably take several days and possibly as long as two weeks before Moscow responded to the French move.

They said they expected several diplomats and businessmen to be expelled.

But, because the French community in Moscow was much smaller than the Soviet presence in Paris, it was likely that the total number would be only a fraction of the 47 expelled from France.

...as Paris stresses stand against 'spies'

PARIS (R) — France's Socialist government said Tuesday its decision to expel 47 Soviet personnel was a signal that it was not "gutless" when dealing with espionage.

As speculation mounted in Paris on President Francois Mitterrand's reasons for ordering Tuesday's expulsions, a government spokesman told reporters: "By this act, France demonstrates that it has no intention of being gullible."

"As much as espionage is a common practice, there is also a rule that says 'he who is caught is punished'," the spokesman added in the first official comment on the

case.

The departure of 40 Soviet diplomats and seven officials has caused a diplomatic freeze between Paris and Moscow and seriously embarrassed the pro-Soviet Communist Party, junior partners in the Mitterrand administration.

Roger Wybot, a former head of France's DST counter-espionage service, said on television the DST believed at least a third of the 700 Soviets with diplomatic passports in Paris were involved in spying.

The Soviet news agency TASS, whose Paris bureau chief and another correspondent were among those ordered out of France, said the expulsions were based on false

charges. France said the expelled Soviets, part of the 2,500-strong official Soviet community in Paris, were engaged in wide-ranging and systematic spying, particularly in the area of technology and science with military applications.

Intelligence sources told French reporters that the DST had extensive proof that each of the 47 Soviets was acting for KGB intelligence or its military counterpart, the GRU.

But press commentators from both left and right said that Mr. Mitterrand's decision was aimed at winning favour with the public and with NATO allies.

HOME NEWS

French exhibition: Challenges conception of what art should be

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Like its predecessors, the French Neorealists and Alichinsky, the current exhibition of French art on show at the Royal Cultural Centre where it forms part of the European Community Spring Festival, challenges our conceptions as to what art should be. The earlier two exhibitions made us re-examine our preconceived notions of content and subject matter, while this present display makes its impact through the way many of the works break the accepted formula of a stretched and rectangular shaped canvas.

It is a very thin line between

innovation and gimmickry, yet the work of both Ernest Pignon-Ernest and Pierre Antoniucci have a quality, that will stand the test of time. This is particularly true of Pignon-Ernest's "Suite pour Alexandria". It is a strange mixture of leaping, tumbling, sartorially dressed, cut out, gentlemen. In between these large sheets of fine paper covered with classical torsos. Hogarthian portraits and snorting stallions are spread like a giant sketchbook of Leonardo that has suffered the ravages of time. The immense dynamism of the upward thrusting figure—who perhaps after assimilating the culture hidden deep within the flaky, torn pages has been released from wordly res-

traints and is now taking off like superman and the slumped floor bound one (before and after seen simultaneously?)—is lent a greater force by the soft, transparently flimsy texture of the gently rustling sheets which lead the eye into the composition.

"Suite pour Alexandria" is a study of opposites. You are led to speculate between hard and soft—between the soft blur of charcoal drawings and the hard edge of superrealism. You are entranced by the difference momentums captured not only by the drawing but by the flow of the paper itself. With its classical references, fine technique and extremely original format, Pignon-Ernest has produced an imm-

ensely stimulating and intellectual image while maintaining a deep aesthetic appeal.

The work of Antoniucci on the other hand, while good, does not leave such a deep impression. His method of challenging our desire for neatly framed pictures is a much simpler one. He merely reduces (or builds up depending on the approach) his work from the whole unutilized canvas to fragments of angular pieces which are hung separately, spread over the wall like the pieces of a huge jigsaw puzzle, and reassembled haphazardly. By cutting his work this and by using patterns and figures strongly reminiscent of the

Basing her design on architectural models Selz has produced a strange and wonderful park where childhood fantasies about running in a land made of candy, where sweets grow on trees, come to visual fruition. Perhaps a little too sickly sweet to take very seriously, the great whirls of dusty pink, emerald green and purple mixtures of medias piped like icing sugar representing the bushes and trees hold a curious fascination. Reminiscent of pop art and in particular of Cates Oldenburg's inedible edibles, this fairy land park is larger than life. You peer down on it like some benevolent deity to see tiny children skipping along red waxen paths. While it may paradoxically delight and revolt

you this piece nevertheless stays in the imagination long after you have left the gallery.

More traditional work, at least in terms of shape, come from Jean-Paul Chambas, Thierry Cheverney and Patrick Launeau. Beautifully crafted Chambas pencil drawings tell of strange events where men (again dressed in suits which, like Pignon-Ernest's figures, add to the feeling of discordancy) dance with expressions of pain in front of distant palm fringed shores or solid stone archways. The centre of his "Dessin Triptyque" is filled with the toppled ruins of a theatre, its crumbling cracked interior surveyed dispassionately by a wounded spectator. The work of Cheverney is

also filled with complex symbolism much of it drawn from mysterious and ancient civilisations whose allure never fades. He surrounds his pyramids and aztec temples, bathed in an eerie light that casts dramatic shadows, with strange Ernst-like creatures and space crafts, graphically depicting a relationship some people believe to be true. The bright bold colours and simple shapes give Cheverney's work a sense of fun, a childlike gaiety but at the same time there is a seriousness that cannot be ignored.

Although mentioned last, the series of etchings by Christian Fossier are perhaps the most sensitive and attractive works on display.

The subject matter sounds uninspiring—a concrete building—but the way the artist has handled it, is nothing short of inspirational. With superlative skill Fossier has given his compositions a solidity, a presence which is sculptural in its intensity. In subtle gradations he has filtered the light through the structure and then used the suffused glow to highlight the rough texture of the walls and floors so that they are almost tangible. As a study of light, form and texture this set of prints excels. As original stimulating and profoundly pleasing works they leave a lasting and powerful impression.

The exhibition runs until April 21.



One of the French exhibition's more "traditional" pieces by Thierry Cheverney which can be seen at

the Royal Cultural Centre until April 21 (Jordan Times photo)



"Suite pour Alexandria" by Ernest Pignon-Ernest forms part of the French exhibition in Jordan under the auspices of the European Community Spring Festival (Jordan Times photo)



One of the paintings of Jean-Paul Chambas currently on show at the Royal Cultural Centre (Jordan Times photo)

ART REVIEW

work of Matisse (but in dark subdued matt colours instead of Matisse's glorious fuschias, resonant yellows and gleaming orange which released that "beneficent radiation") Antoniucci seems to be following the ideas that began with that great artist and were continued by the post Matisse Pattern Painters (like Kim MacConnel for example) who formed one of the most important developments in American art in the 1970's. When viewed in this context it is — Matisse after all has been a very difficult act to follow—not a terribly original contribution. However if taken on its own it is an interesting piece with its references to classical Greek art, expressionism and in the way the more complete works can be read from any angle like a colourful Escher.

One other work—the sculpture by Dorothea Selz makes its impact by the newness of the technique.

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HOME NEWS

Dudin orders cattle shots

AMMAN (Petra) — Agriculture Minister Marwan Dudin Wednesday circulated instructions to the departments of agriculture in Irbid and Mafrq in northern Jordan to launch a rinderpest inoculation campaign for cattle.

The instructions said that a ban on the overland importation of cows from Syria should be maintained until further notice because of reported cases of rinderpest in that country.

JPRC to make large gift to social institutions

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company (JPRC) Wednesday announced that they will donate JD 11,000 to Jordanian educational and social institutions. Out of the sum, JD 5,000 will go to the Queen Alia

Jordan Welfare Fund; JD 2,500 will go to the University of Jordan's Student Fund, JD 2,500 will benefit the Yarmouk University's Student Fund, and JD 1,000 will go to the Royal Endowment for Culture and Education.

Soviet team visits campus

AMMAN (Petra) — A visiting Soviet delegation representing the Jordanian Soviet Friendship Society called at the University of Jordan Wednesday and met its president Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali. The delegation members were briefed on the university's development and programmes.

Dr. Majali later received a visiting delegation from Yugoslav universities and informed them of the university's development and future programmes. The two sides discussed cooperation between the University of Jordan and universities in Yugoslavia at the postgraduate level.

GUVS marks its jubilee

IRBID (Petra) — The General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) in Jordan held a celebration in Irbid Tuesday to mark Social Work Day and the GUVS Silver Jubilee.

Addressing the celebration, GUVS board chairman Abdullah Al Khatib outlined the achievements and activities carried out by charitable and voluntary societies in Jordan. He also detailed the assistance provided by GUVS and the charitable programmes that would be carried out this year.

Speakers at the celebration included representatives from voluntary societies in Irbid Governorate who spoke about the various services their societies offer in that region.

Food seminar makes detailed suggestions

AMMAN (Petra) — The seminar on the foodstuff industry ended in Amman Tuesday with policy recommendations affecting agricultural production, marketing and pricing systems, the protection of national production, research in and development of agricultural production and control and export policies.

With regards to agriculture, the seminar called on the relevant ministries to direct their future plans towards developing the rural regions, conducting surveys of potential water resources, informing farmers in the use of fertilisers and insecticides, encouraging farmers to grow more cereal crops.

On industry, the seminar called

on the authorities to conduct feasibility studies as to the viability of food industries before embarking on such ventures, and to introduce legislation that would grant local industries sufficient protection in the face of foreign competition.

In the research field, the seminar called for cooperation between universities and research centres on the one hand and the food industry on the other especially over the use of primary materials in food processing.

In the area of marketing, the seminar called on the relevant bodies to conduct a study of potential markets abroad in order to determine the type and quantities of crops to be grown for export.

Hassan studies Aqaba's problems

AQABA (Petra) — Demographic, tourist, and economic development problems facing the city of Aqaba were reviewed at a meeting held here Wednesday under the chairmanship of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Ministers of transport, labour and municipal affairs and the interior attended the meeting as did directors of various government departments in Aqaba. The meeting studied a comprehensive report submitted by the departments on

the major obstacles impeding the city's development. The minister then made comments based on a tour of the city's institutions which they undertook Wednesday morning to familiarise themselves directly with the situation.

Today marks Health Day

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan will mark World Health Day Thursday with a special ceremony to be held at the paramedical school at Al Bashir hospital in Amman.

The ministers of health, labour and social development are expected to take part in the ceremony. This year's theme for the Day will be "providing health for all as quickly as possible".

Meanwhile the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees' Health Department in Jordan will mark the

occasion with a celebration at the Amman New Camp (Wahdat) Youth Activities Centre. A number of guests will make speeches at the occasion which commences at 10:30.

Book exhibition to open

AMMAN (J.T.) — An exhibition of Arab books will open at the Palace of Culture Saturday under the patronage of Minister of Culture and Youth Ma'an Abu Nowar in cooperation with the Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives.

Nearly 60 Arab publishing houses from Iraq, Lebanon, Egypt and Tunisia in addition to Jordan will be displaying books and publications all of which will be on sale to the public at a 25 per cent discount.

At the exhibition there will be a special wing for national publications organised by the Jordanian Writers Association.

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CYANAMID

Turkish singer appears in Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — One of Turkey's most famous singers gave a concert Wednesday at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel in Amman.

The concert, starring Mrs. Nesrin Sipahi, was organised by the Department of Culture and Arts in cooperation with the Turkish Embassy.

Mrs. Sipahi, who arrived in Amman on April 5, sang 24 songs including Turkish classical and folk songs and popular Arabic

songs. Mrs. Sipahi, who is aged 58, was born in Istanbul and started her career as a singer at the Istanbul radio station in 1950, and gave her first concert in 1958.

She was the first lady to take the leading role in a Turkish musical film. During her career she has recorded 400 albums of mainly Turkish and European music.

Starting from 1964, Mrs. Sipahi, who is the mother of two sons, gave several concerts in Europe.

U.S.A., Canada and Australia.

Mrs. Sipahi has received several honours from many countries. While in France she received the medal of honorary fellow townsman from the city of Bourgoigne. In the Soviet Union she was selected as the best foreign singer in 1970.

At the Recklinghausen festival in Germany she was chosen as the most successful singer in 1973, and during the 15th international festival in Tunis in 1978 she received the Grand Prize.

Mrs. Sipahi will give a second concert Thursday at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel and is scheduled to return to Turkey on April 9.

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Jordan Phosphate Mines Co. Ltd

Text for expatriate recruiting

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1. DRAGLINE OPERATION MANAGER

Qualifications and experience:

A Degree or Diploma in mining engineering acceptable to register with Jordan Engineers Association. Minimum 10 years experience in open pit mining or large earth-moving operations, several years of which spent in walking dragline operations. Knowledge of English is essential.

Duties: Responsible for continuous operation and maintenance of a dragline plant consisting of a 41 cu yd and 313 ft-boom electric walking dragline, two D9 bulldozers, two 45-R blasthole drills, Anfo truck, two cranes, complete maintenance workshop and 33/6.6 KV Power Distribution System. Manage a work force of about 70 consisting of local and expatriate labour. Perform all necessary planning, scheduling, budgeting, etc Report to El Hassa Mine Manager for instructions and coordination.

2. DRAGLINE MECHANICAL MAINTENANCE SUPERINTENDANT

Qualifications and experience:

A Degree or Diploma in mechanical engineering acceptable to register with Jordan Engineers Association. Minimum 8 years experience on maintenance of mine plant equipment, at least 4 years of which with walking dragline operations. Knowledge of English is essential.

Duties: Responsible for proper maintenance and mechanical availability of dragline plant machinery listed above. Plan, organise and implement preventive maintenance, repairs and major overhauls of all mechanical equipment. Responsible for correct specifications and timely requisitions of all mechanical spares and maintenance supplies.

3. DRAGLINE ELECTRICAL MAINTENANCE SUPERINTENDANT

Qualifications and experience:

A Degree or Diploma in electrical engineering acceptable to register with Jordan Engineers Association. Minimum 8 years experience in electrical maintenance of mine plant equipment, at least 4 years of which with electrical dragline or large electric shovel operations. Knowledge of English is essential.

Duties: Responsible for proper maintenance and electrical availability of dragline plant equipment listed above. Plan, organise and implement preventive maintenance, repairs and major overhauls of all electrical equipment. Responsible for correct specifications and timely orders of electrical spares and maintenance supplies.

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12. Two 1st-class Fitters for dragline maintenance.

Conditions of employment: Employment is normally by 1-year contract renewable annually. Salaries are negotiable and paid free of tax.

Benefits include 30 days annual leave, return air fares to place of recruitment are paid to the employee, his wife and children up to 18 years of age at the end of each 12-month period of service. Unused annual leave is carried forward. Rent-free housing is available at El-Hassa town site. Company's health scheme and the national pension insurance will apply to all expatriate employees. Employment is scheduled to start in May 1983 but not later than August 1983.

Applications providing full details of qualifications, experience, marital status and other personal data, together with a passport size photo, names and dates of birth of family members, contact phone number and address should be forwarded by air mail to:

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Jordan Phosphate Mines Co.
Post Office Box 30
Amman - Jordan

08:15 Cairo (EA)	22:15 Abu Dhabi (SR)
09:30	... Athens, Berlin, Helsinki (RJ)	02:10 Cairo (EA)

SPORTS

Masters golf tournament wide open this year

AUGUSTA, Georgia (R) — With Jack Nicklaus and Tom Watson suffering early-season problems the 82-strong field is wide open in the 47th Masters golf tournament which begins Thursday at the 6,905-yard (6,310-metre) Augusta national course.

Nicklaus, who has won the event a record five times, and two-time champion Watson have yet to win a tournament between them this year, and both admit they have yet to find their true form.

As a result, the experts are looking elsewhere for a potential champion and the names being most widely mentioned are his fellow-Americans Tom Kite, Ray Floyd and Hal Sutton.

"Any time you try to predict a winner at Augusta, you have to include Tom Kite," Nicklaus remarked recently after completing a practice round.

The wiry-haired Kite has been the most consistent player on the tour for the past three years and is number four money winner this year with \$126,408. But despite his consistency his critics note he has never taken one of the big four tournaments—the Masters, the U.S. and British Opens and the

PGA.

Kite, 33, has an impressive record in the Masters, finishing in the top six five times in the past six years. But to win he must overcome the recent trend which has seen the winner's green jacket go almost invariably to the longer hitters.

Floyd fits this mould, and at 40 he is playing the best golf of his career. He has finished second in the money-winners list the past two years and although he is only 16th this season with a score average of 70.16 strokes a round.

The blond-haired Floyd has not yet won this year but in nine appearances he has finished in the top seven four times and he has not finished lower than 23rd.

Floyd's record of 18 tour victories testify to his will to win and his victories in the 1969 PGA and 1976 Masters show he can withstand the pressure in the majors.

Sutton has earned his place as a contender by heading the money-winners list in only his second year on the tour. He has four top-10 finishes to his credit this year and two weeks ago outlasted the rest of the field to win the prestigious tournament Players' Championship.

Sutton, 24, won the 1980 U.S. amateur championship and last year was named "rookie of the year."

Despite their lack of success, Nicklaus and Watson cannot be easily discounted. Nicklaus, 43, became this year the first golfer to surpass \$4 million in tournament earnings, finished runner-up in the invitational classic, fifth in the bay hill classic and eighth at the Doral Open.

However, his putting has become questionable and will be tested to the utmost by the superfast greens at Augusta which promise to be slicker than ever if the weather remains hot and dry.

Watson, 33, has not come close to winning a tournament this year and there must be long odds against him repeating last year's feat of winning both the U.S. and the British Opens.

Watson's usual strategy of spending the week before the Masters in his native Kansas City to practice backfired when atrocious weather closed the course most of the time. However, both he and Nicklaus have both showed time and again that they are tough to beat when it comes to the majors.

China scoops top badminton honours

By Peter Humphrey
Reuter

LONDON — China's top badminton players live in what most Western sportsmen would regard as dire poverty but their results at last month's All-England Championships here made them the envy of their rivals around the world.

The Chinese must hand over their international prize money to their national association. They earn only £30 (\$45) a month as teachers and live in the most spartan flats.

They might seem to have little incentive to win. "But we throw all we've got into the game for love of our country," said Zhang Ailing, who won the women's event for the second successive year.

The Chinese team returned home from the All-England event, the world's most prestigious annual tournament, with both singles titles and the women's doubles crown, leaving no doubt about their position as the premier badminton power.

Luan Jin smashed his way to the men's title over 1982 champion Morten Frost of Denmark. Zhang beat compatriot and West German Open Champion Wu Jianqiu, and Xu Rong and Wu Jianqiu beat Lin Ying and Wu Dixi to take the women's doubles.

Luan's win provided the biggest surprise to observers who expected him to bow again to Frost's greater stamina. "But he is really the master now," Frost said.

Luan said he had to surrender his £1,000 sterling (\$1,450) prize money to the Chinese Badminton Federation, who would later award him a small amount of money for his victory. He said the Chinese players would be highly commended back home.

All the Chinese, despite their small incomes, benefit from being permanently salaried by the state either as teachers or students at sports colleges, where they have more time for training than most Western sportsmen.

They said they played several hours of badminton daily at home and in the three months before the All-England they put in extra hours for gymnastic exercises. In Peking they were coached together intensively for a month before coming to London.

"The government puts a lot into badminton in China because it regards it as a national sport along with volleyball, basketball, and table tennis," said Chen Changjie, who was beaten in the third round men's singles by England's Nick Yates.

There are clear signs that China holds its players as dear as gold. Perhaps mindful of the defection in the United States last July of tennis star Hu Na, the women badminton players were conspicuously chaperoned in London by a Chinese official.

China had blamed Hu Na's defection on the Western press, and the badminton players had to ask permission from their leaders before talking to reporters here.

Both the Chinese and their rivals at the All-England said they had learned from each other and the game had improved noticeably.

since the Chinese were admitted to the International Badminton Federation (IBF) less than two years ago.

"We have had to work on our stamina to match the Western physique," said the muscular Luan Jin. "And the Westerners have been improving their style since we first came to Europe a few years ago," said women's doubles runner-up Wu Dixi.

"We have good defence but the Chinese are too fast for us the first time round," Canadian Claire Backhouse said after she and Johanne Falardeau, the Commonwealth Games champions, lost a women's doubles second round match to Li Lingwei and Han Aiping.

Zhang, 25, said she thought Chinese women, and Asians in general, had great physical advantages. "The Europeans are taller with wider hips and are thus not as agile. We are more flexible and can thus move much faster," she said.

Their women were particularly strong here, occupying six of the eight seeded positions and having all four singles semi-finalists and three of the last four in the doubles.

There reign should be a long one. "We have 30 provinces at home, all producing good teams

and players are there are at least 20 more who can play as well as the ones here," Zhang said.

Now the Chinese look to next month's World Championships in Copenhagen. Their four entrants — the maximum allowed in that event — top the women's seedings and the men's team has been strengthened by the addition of Han Jian, absent from the All-England but a star of last July's Thomas Cup victory over Indonesia.

China entered the International Badminton Federation (IBF) in 1981 after a long and bitter political row over Taiwan's membership. Taiwan, which regards itself as the true China, were allowed to remain after changing its name to Taipei.

Before their admission to the IBF, China had belonged to the breakaway World Badminton Federation (WBF) but exclusion from the IBF had prevented them from proving their might as the world's best.

Now it is possible for players from both China and Taiwan to play each other, as happened this year when Taiwan's Sherry Lin, partnered by West German Eva-Marie Fwielber, lost 15-0, 15-3 to China's Xu Rong and Wu Jianqiu in the women's doubles.

China protests to U.S. over tennis star Hu Na

PEKING (R) — China Wednesday night lodged a strong protest with the U.S. government over its decision to grant political asylum to Chinese tennis star Hu Na, the New China News Agency (NCNA) reported.

Quoting diplomatic sources, the official agency said the protest was contained in a note handed to American Ambassador Arthur Hummel by Vice Foreign Minister Han Xunli.

The agency did not reveal the contents of the note.

A foreign ministry spokesman said Tuesday that Hu, 19, was coerced into defecting, and warned

Washington its decision to grant her asylum would damage bilateral ties.

He described Monday's justice department ruling as "a grave incident long premeditated and deliberately created by the United States."

He denied the tennis star's allegations that she faced persecution if she returned home, adding: "The U.S. government has no ground whatsoever to grant political asylum to Hu Na."

Hu defected last July while representing her country in a Federation Cup tournament in California.

Botham seeks England cricket captaincy again

LONDON (R) — Ian Botham wants to captain England's cricket team again, but is backing current skipper Bob Willis to lead the side in the forthcoming season.

All-rounder Botham, who lost four times and drew eight in his 12-match one-year reign as England captain starting in mid-1980, now feels mature enough to handle the job.

Botham, speaking on a television sports programme here, said: "I've learned a lot since I lost the captaincy of England."

"I've matured."

"My problem was man man-

agement. I didn't realise that some people need shouting at, others need telling they are the best in the world. I'd love another chance. But I'd also love Bob Willis to be given the captaincy this summer."

Botham, who often did not look match fit during England's recent tour of Australia, now says he is back in good shape.

"I've been training with Scunthorpe United (soccer club). I'm lighter and fitter than when I took a lot of Australian wickets in 1981. No England player has a tougher training programme than me," he said.

Headmaster to run Grand National to raise school funds

EASTBOURNE, England (R) — The headmaster of a school hit by spending cuts plans to run the Grand National steeplechase course on foot-climbing the jumps with an aluminium ladder to raise money for school equipment.

Peter Rogan, 39, headmaster of a junior school north of Liverpool, hopes to raise enough cash to buy a mini-bus, text books and a video recorder for his school, delegates at a National Teachers' Conference were told here.

The hard-up headmaster did not attend the conference, which deplored the effect of local spending cuts on education, because

he was training for his Grand National attempt. He will set off on Sunday, the day after the horses hurdle over the jumps.

"He is taking it very seriously—he's lost a stone and a half (9.5 kg) in training," a colleague told the teachers.

Jordan Times
Tel: 666265

Lendl beats Arraya in WCT tourney

HOUSTON, Texas (R) — Top-seeded Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia, showing no sign of the injuries that have plagued him this year, crushed Pablo Arraya of Peru 6-0, 6-0 in the \$300,000 World Championship Tennis (WCT) tournament here Tuesday.

Fifth-seeded Wojtek Fibak of Poland, who is Lendl's coach, did not fare so well, losing a 3-0 first set lead to go down 7-5, 6-3 to Sammy Giammalva of the U.S.

Lendl has been through a bad patch of groin and shoulder injuries and suffered first-round defeats in three tournaments this year. But on Tuesday he lost only 15 points in beginning his quest for his third Houston title in four years. He won four games at love and clinched victory in just 47 minutes although Arraya played tenaciously at the start.

"I just tried to keep the ball in play," Lendl said. "I tried not to miss too much. When I have tried

to hit the ball hard in the last few weeks, I have been making too many errors. This is the best I have felt in a while."

Three other seeds also advanced to the second round.

Fourth-seeded Bill Scanlon of the U.S. defeated Vijay Amritraj of India 3-6, 6-4, 6-1; seventh-seeded Jose Luis Clerc of Argentina beat Andy Andrews of the U.S. 6-4, 6-4 and eighth-seeded Tomas Smid of Czechoslovakia beat Tony Giammalva of the U.S. 6-7, 6-4, 6-4.

In other first round matches, John Alexander of Australia beat Christophe Roger-Vasselin of France 7-5, 6-1; Eric Fromm of the U.S. defeated Andres Maurer of West Germany 6-4, 6-4; Henri Leconte of France defeated Thomas Hogstedt of Sweden 4-6, 6-3, 6-2 and Drew Gihm of the U.S. defeated Chris Johnstone of Australia 7-5, 5-7, 6-1.

Soviets battle to keep amateur boxing Kings Cup

BANGKOK (R) — Defending team champions the Soviet Union kept alive their hopes of retaining the Kings Cup amateur boxing title with three quarter-final wins Tuesday.

Their successes came in the light-flyweight, welterweight and

middleweight divisions, with an impressive performance coming from light-flyweight Souzheukov.

He appeared to be heading for the Soviet Union's first gold medal when he scored his second straight knockout win.

India's Gavaskar moves nearer to record as fifth test against West Indies drawn

GEORGETOWN, Guyana (R) — India's opening batsman Sunil Gavaskar Tuesday became the second highest scorer of centuries in test cricket and needs three more to beat the world record.

Gavaskar, who made his maiden test hundred here 12 years ago, achieved his 27th by scoring an unbeaten 147 as the rain-hit third test against West Indies ended in a draw on the fifth and final day Tuesday.

India scored 284 for three in reply to the first innings total of 470 by West Indies, who lead 1-0 in the five-match series.

Gavaskar surpassed former West Indies captain Sir Garfield Sobers' total of 26 test centuries and is now only two short of the world record of 29 held by ex-Australian skipper Sir Donald Bradman.

There was never any chance of a definite result after the second and fourth days were washed out, and India batted solidly under the influence of Gavaskar and Dilip Vengsarkar, with 62.

Although with the good con-

dition of the pitch ruling out a decisive result or even some excitement, the attraction of seeing Gavaskar bat drew a sizeable crowd and, as his innings grew, the stands became more packed.

Gavaskar, who opened with Anshuman Gaekwad when India started their innings promptly in the morning, scored his first 50 with fluency and included seven fours.

But Gavaskar was bogged down for a long time on 92 and took 18 minutes after tea to add to this score before he reached his hundred in 278 minutes off 182 balls, hitting 12 fours.

Immediately after reaching his century, however, Gavaskar drove Larry Gomes for a six and a four in the same over. He batted altogether for 330 minutes, and this was his 11th century against West Indies.

Gavaskar lost his opening partner when Gaekwad was caught behind off a beautiful out-swing from Michael Holding, while Mohinder Amarnath, edging a

drive at Malcolm Marshall, was superbly taken at third slip by Viv Richards to make the score 68 for two.

Gavaskar should have gone just before Amarnath's dismissal, but he was put down by Gordon Greenidge at second slip off Marshall, operating from round the wicket. To that point, Gavaskar had batted with absolute command and scored his 50 in 106 minutes.

Gavaskar and Vengsarkar shared a third wicket partnership which lasted well into the afternoon and put on 112, though Vengsarkar survived a chance to Greenidge off Andy Roberts on 34.

Looking suspect outside the off stump, Vengsarkar was ultimately caught from a sliced drive, the catch being deflected to Richards from the right glove of wicketkeeper Jeff Dujon.

Gavaskar and Yashpal Sharma, who scored an unbeaten 35, shared an unfinished fourth wicket partnership of 104 as the match petered out to its inevitable conclusion.

Anderlecht heads for UEFA Cup final

PRAGUE (R) — Belgian World Cup striker Erwin Vandenberg scored a golden goal against Bohemians Prague here Wednesday to point Anderlecht towards the UEFA Cup final.

Anderlecht's 1-0 semifinal first leg win was only the second home beating inflicted on the Czechoslovak side in three years and made the Belgians overwhelming favourites to reach their third European final in seven years.

Vandenberg rose half an hour into the game to head a perfect high cross from World Cup teammate Ludo Coeck past helpless international goalkeeper Zdenek Huska.

It was one more crucial strike for the Belgian goal-getter who scored the first goal of last year's World Cup in the 1-0 win over defending champions Argentina and was on target again last week in Belgium's 2-1 European Cha-

mpionship victory over East Germany.

The Belgians packed their defence after the goal, leaving only Vandenberg and Brylle, later replaced by Alexandre Czumanski, up front.

They resorted to delaying tactics towards the end of the second half to cling to the lead they hope will be the springboard to their third European title following their triumphs in the Cup Winners' Cup in 1976 and 1978.

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THE Daily Crossword by Judson G. Trent

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10 If — a million dollars	32 Legal claim	57 Affluent	29 Jailed
14 Mole skin hue	33 Approval	58 Cabaret letters	31 Whiskey and bread
15 Cassowary kin	35 Trojan	64 Fatigue	34 Kin of lotto
16 Accuse	39 4 PM in London	65 Dogma	36 Arrow
17 Sachet scent	41 Pith	66 Like — of bricks	37 Lot size
18 Caddoan Indians	43 Certain crosses	67 S.A. nation	38 Simon or diamond
19 Gallip	44 Space acronym	68 Awaken	39 Man, for one
20 Predestined	46 Gas: pref.	69 Frier	40 Fry, in a way
22 "H Can't Happen —"	47 Singer John	70 Hollow	42 Fry, in a way
23 Surrealist	49 Remove film	71 Copter part	45 Tried — (yoal)
		DOWN	48 More jejeune
		1 King of the Huns	50 Olympic drink
		2 Check or coat	51 Father of Paris
		3 Many: pref.	52 Slowly
		4 Bright fish	53 Strauss
		5 Abate	54 Copland of music
		6 Wild	55 In the van
		7 BSA word	56 Mid city
		8 Pip	58 Leander's love
		9 Scuffle	60 "What's for me?"
		10 Exonerated	61 Mexican money
		11 Raced	62 Hip or tip ending
		12 Luigi's love	
		13 Hold back	
		21 Pool play	
		25 Horse's mother	

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14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71

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هكذا مع العلم

ECONOMY

Survey shows increased hopes of recovery

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Commission Wednesday reported growing optimism among Common Market businessmen which it said augured well for prospects of a sustained economic recovery.

The improvements were recorded in a commission-sponsored business survey in February which showed a widespread and pronounced advance over the previous month, the commission said in a statement accompanying the survey.

"The recent fall in interest rates, declining oil prices, reduced stock levels and lower inflationary expectations are all factors which now favour economic recovery," it said.

The monthly survey takes into account stock exchange prices and prospects for the future as described by senior executives of about 30,000 manufacturing industries and building firms.

Early signs of an upturn in West Germany, France and the Netherlands have now been joined by

hopes for better prospects in Italy, Britain and Ireland, the commission said.

There was a significant improvement in economic sentiment, which was spread widely across all countries and included better forecasts for production, orders, selling-price expectations and stock levels, the commission continued.

In the construction industry, executives reported greater demand for labour and better prospects for production plans in France, Italy and the Netherlands.

However, the commission also reported a small drop in the use of industrial capacity, currently at its lowest level since a slump in 1975. This accounted for the small amount of investment in industry, it said.

The results of the February survey strengthen optimism expressed by the commission about the January results, which pointed to first signs of an upturn, community officials said.

Sterling advances

LONDON (R) — Sterling followed up Tuesday's strong advances Wednesday with new gains against most currencies.

buoyed by confidence that world oil prices are heading for a period of stability, the British pound rose almost a cent to \$1.5140 from Tuesday's close at 1.5050.

Against the West German mark sterling rose to 3.6465 marks from 3.6355 and the index measuring its value against a basket of major currencies was 0.3 points higher at 80.6 at midday.

Grundig profits

FRANKFURT (R) — West Germany's Grundig Home Electronics Company said Wednesday it had made a profit in 1982 after two years of heavy losses and no longer saw an urgent need to find a strong industrial partner.

A company spokesman said he could not give precise figures for the financial year which ended on March 31, but the firm had clearly returned to profit after two years of large losses.

He said turnover of the company, which makes video recorders and television sets, rose to well over three billion marks (\$1.24 billion), up from 2.86 billion marks (\$1.18 billion) the previous year.

Speaking from Grundig headquarters in Furtth, he said: "This shows that Grundig is a sound company. We are in no hurry to

find a partner."

Grundig had been discussing a takeover bid from Thomson Brandt of France to create a European solution to the problem of Japanese dominance in the field of home electronics, but the West German cartel office barred the move.

Thomson Brandt later bought a 75 per cent interest in the West German firm Telefunken Fernseh Und Rundfunk, which cooperates with the Japanese Victor Company.

In a newspaper interview published Wednesday, Mr. Max Grundig, founder and chairman of the Grundig company, said he still saw a need to sell his 75.5 per cent stake in the firm because of his age. He will be 75 next month.

"Somehow, at some time, I will lean upon a large partner," he was quoted as saying.

Turkish officials discuss troubled banking sector

ANKARA (R) — Turkish Finance Minister Adnan Baser Kafaoglu met the country's top bankers Wednesday to discuss sweeping changes he plans for Turkey's troubled banking and financial sector.

Bank officials said representatives from all 45 domestic and foreign banks operating in Turkey were invited to the meeting.

A law passed by the military-appointed National Consultative Assembly last week gave the cabinet power to alter by decree many of the country's banking and financial laws. Mr. Kafaoglu is expected to publish the planned changes within days.

The Turkish banking sector fell into disarray after the collapse last summer of the country's financial

brokerage houses, which competed with banks for savers' deposits, and the inability of many recession-hit industrial borrowers to service loans.

Mr. Kafaoglu has said he wants to restructure the banks and establish some form of capital market for the first time.

In the absence of a proper money market, brokerage houses sold bank certificates of deposits and bonds, competing with the banks for savers' money by offering interest rates as high as 60 per cent for depositors.

The finance minister said last week he intended to make appointments of bank managing directors subject to finance ministry approval, limit the number of branches banks could open and legislate against any revival of the brokers.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Stock prices closed higher in moderate trading with sentiment helped by sterling's strength, dealers said. At 1500 the F.T. index was up 7.2 at 661.2.

The March banking figures had little impact but sterling's performance prompted fresh demand for government bonds which showed net gains of 1 1/2 points. Initial selective interest in equities broadened later. Distillers rose 19p at 249 on hopes the E.C.'s ban on the sale of its Red Lable Whisky in the U.K. will be lifted.

North American stocks and gold shares traded mixed. Datastream ended at 238p on its debut against a striking price of 225 while BTR eased 6p to 426 after news that it is still in the market for Thomas Tilling shares at 175p. BTR has said it wishes to buy up to 43.7 million shares in Tilling which held steady at 176p following Tuesday's 49p gain.

ICI closed steady at 394 but Glaxo added 20p to 855, B.P. 12p to 354 while Racal and Marks and Spencer rose 10p apiece.

Banks moved against the general trend but closed above lowest levels and in generally higher insurance Sun Alliance firmed 80p to 1030p but Phoenix fell 10p to 312 after results.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One sterling	1.5100/10	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2334/37	Canadian dollars
	2.4105/15	West German marks
	2.7165/75	Dutch guilders
	2.0465/75	Swiss francs
	47.92/96	Belgian francs
	7.2275/2325	French francs
	1434.00/1435.00	Italian lire
	237.10/25	Japanese yen
	7.4660/90	Swedish crowns
	7.1295/1325	Norwegian crowns
	8.5645/75	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	428.00/429.00	U.S. dollars

NEWS IN BRIEF

U.S. bank cuts prime rate to 10%

WINSTON-SALEM, North Carolina (R) — The Wachovia Bank and Trust Company, 31st largest bank in the United States, said Tuesday it was cutting its prime interest rate to 10 per cent from 10.5 per cent from Wednesday. Other major banks have posted a 10.5 per cent prime rate -- the rate banks charge on loans to their most credit-worthy corporate customers -- since February. Banking experts in New York said it was unlikely that any of the nation's leading banks would immediately follow Wachovia's move. They said most major banks were waiting for short-term interest rates to fall before cutting their prime rates.

W. German unemployment drops

NUREMBERG, West Germany (R) — West Germany announced Wednesday that unemployment figures fell sharply last month from February's record 2.54 million but officials said the underlying trend was still rising. The federal labour office said 2,390,000 people were without jobs in March, 150,000 less than the previous month. The figure represents 9.8 per cent of the work force compared with 10.4 per cent in February.

Wine growers discuss production

ROME (R) — More than 20 wine-producing countries met Tuesday to discuss ways tackling surplus production which threatens to depress prices. World production in 1982/83 was a near-record 365 million hectolitres but falling demand could result in huge lake of unsold wine by the end of the year, figures by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation showed. Western Europe contributed most to the total crop, which was exceeded only by the 370 million hectolitres harvested in 1979/80, and there were record vineyard areas in the United States, Soviet Union and Argentina.

Nyerere warns black marketeers

DAR ES SALAAM (R) — Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere said Tuesday black marketeers henceforth would be sent, without trial, to work on the land and would have their property confiscated. He told party and government leaders in a speech that many people, including some party and state officials, were arrested in a recent crackdown on black marketeering. He hinted he would use his powers of detention to smash black market dealings. Tanzania is having its worst economic crisis in two decades of independence. Many essential goods are unobtainable from shops that are supposed to sell them at controlled prices but can be found on the black market.

Cubans to discuss debt maturities

PARIS (R) — Cuban officials will meet foreign bankers in Paris on April 11 to continue talks aimed at reaching agreement on the rescheduling of some \$400 million owed to Western banks, banking sources said Tuesday. The banks led by Credit Lyonnais recently reached a tentative agreement on long and medium-term Cuban debt of about \$200 million, but did not agree terms for the rest which is short-term. Banking sources declined to speculate on the chances of a solution next Monday, but said any agreement must be approved by all the 100 banks involved. They added that approval was still pending for the long and medium-term debt agreement.

Iran, Syria sign oil agreement

LONDON (R) — Iran has signed a one-year contract with Syria for the sale of five million tons of crude oil, Tehran radio reported. The radio said the agreement was signed by Syrian Oil Minister Abdul Jabbar Al Dahhak and Iran's Oil Minister Mohammad Gharazi, at the end of week-long discussions between Syrian and Iranian officials. In an interview on state radio, Gharazi said the contract was for the sale of five million tons of crude oil on a cash and barter basis. The radio said the two countries had also signed a commercial letter of understanding under which Iran will import chemicals, textile, beans, peas and barley from Syria.

Kuwait Asia Bank increases capital

BAHRAIN (R) — The Bahrain-based Kuwait Asia Bank said Wednesday it had boosted its capital to \$100 million from \$50 million by issuing 70 million new shares.

Bank chairman Salah Fahad Al Marzook said the capital increase would enable Kuwait Asia Bank to expand representation in the Asia and Pacific area through new branches and representative offices, joint ventures and other investments.

He said in a statement that the bank's founding shareholders had doubled their stakes, while four new shareholders and one founder had taken up an additional 40 million shares. He gave no details of the price.

Al Marzook noted the bank opened its first overseas branch in Singapore last year as well as taking a 49.9 per cent stake in a new venture in New Zealand, the Australasia Investment company.

Leyland workers to continue strike

COWLEY, England (R) — Car workers at the state-owned British Leyland (B.L.) plant here voted Wednesday to continue their nine-day-old strike over management plans to remove a few minutes' cleaning-up time from their shifts. So far it has cost B.L. more than £25 million (\$37.5 million) in production. Over 3,000 workers have been laid off.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, APR. 7, 1983

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Confine your activities to the details that require your attention in any plans that have breadth and scope to them. Many benefits are due to take place at this time. Be alert.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Engage in small duties that need your attention and forget bigger ventures for the time being. Try to help associates more.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Doing thoughtful things for good friends will be appreciated and will strengthen the alliance. Strive for happiness.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Attend to public duties early so you don't lose out in an important business deal. Steer clear of a troublemaker.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Be sure to handle the minute details of a new plan you have in mind. Don't neglect important research.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Deal fairly with debtors and creditors and excellent results will follow. Make sure everything is in order at home.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You would be wise to carry through with your end of any agreement made with others. Engage in your favorite hobby.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Take time to make your environment more charming so you will feel happier. The evening is fine for entertaining friends.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) A good day to correct errors you have made in the past. Show the depth of your affection to the one you love.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Make sure you don't lose your temper with an associate or there could be unfortunate results. Use common sense.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Make sure you work carefully so that you don't make errors at work today. It's important to use caution in travel today.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Be alert in the handling of finances now, otherwise you could make costly errors. Spending less and saving more is wise.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Don't broadcast personal woes to others at this time. Avoid the source of your discontent and express happiness.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will want to argue with others and should be taught early to conserve energy for more constructive activities. Otherwise, your progeny could get into needless trouble. A fine chart for the field of engineering.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, APR. 8, 1983

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day to delve into social interests that can inspire you to make improvements in your life. Let good friends know your true aims. Strive to become more successful in the future.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Get in touch with trusted allies and gain their aid for a plan you have in mind. Strive for happiness in the days ahead.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Study new operational methods at work and gain greater benefits in the future. State your goals to influential persons.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) A good day for expansion where your regular interests are concerned, so take initial steps early in the day.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Fine day for taking care of personal responsibilities. Follow your intuition which is accurate at this time.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Come to a better accord with associates and make changes that can yield better results. Avoid one who is not trustworthy.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) A good day to expand where business interests are concerned. Don't neglect to handle accumulated duties.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Do something that will show to loved one that you are truly devoted. Take no chances where your credit is concerned.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Discuss with family members ways to improve conditions at home. A new outlet can bring more success in the future.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Contact a person who understands a problem you have and will help you clear it up. Be more active.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Think along more modern lines where finances are concerned and get better results. Make the evening a happy one.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Plan the future wisely so you can get what you truly want out of life. Go to the right sources for the data you need.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Take time out from regular routines and figure out a better way to gain your aims. Spend more time with the one you love.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one who wants to learn a great deal, but should be taught early in life to schedule activities well to gain the most benefits. Give the finest education you can afford and success is assured.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

THE BETTER HALF

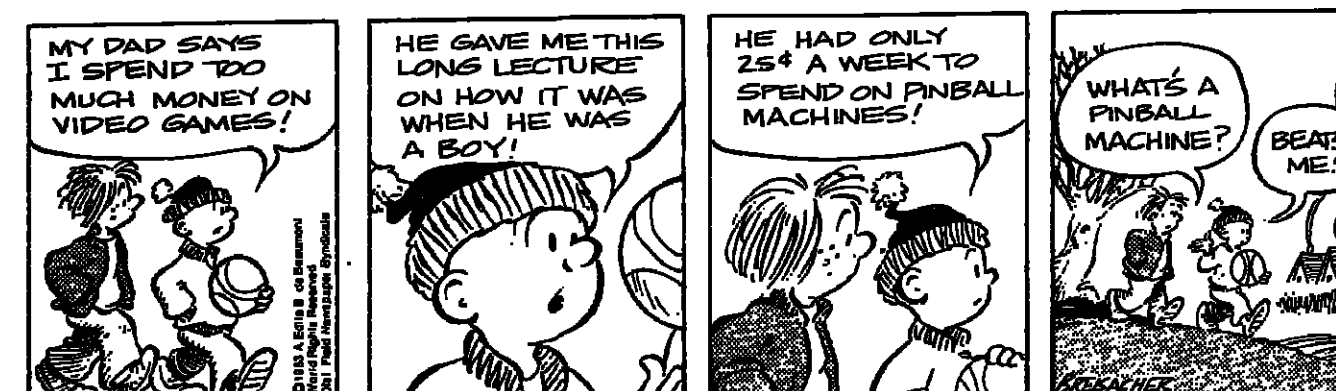
By Harris



Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

INBAR

FLEAB

YAFFOL

DANAGE

From my cousins in Australia. They've made a bundle

WHAT SOME DISTANT RELATIVES HAVE DONE.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: THEY'VE

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: CANAL MIDGE JUSTLY EXCITE

Answer: Might have been seen in the ballrooms of grand ancestral homes—"DANCES"

Thais say more napalm raids against Vietnamese possible

BANGKOK (R) — Thai border commanders said Wednesday they were prepared to send a second wave of fighter-bombers, possibly carrying napalm, against Vietnamese troops who crossed into Thailand from Kampuchea at the weekend.

Senior army officers told reporters that despite inflicting heavy casualties on Monday, Thai planes had still not flushed out Vietnamese troops from border positions.

Maj. Gen. Prachum Phibunphuwat, the most senior officer at the frontier, confirmed earlier reports that the Thai air force had dropped napalm — jellied petrol — on Vietnamese forces entrenched on a hill straddling the ill-defined border.

Prachum, commander of the Thai second division, said the attack by two F-5e fighter-bombers killed many of the estimated 150 Vietnamese dug in at Phnom Pra Hill.

Military sources in Bangkok said this was the first time napalm had been caused in Indochina since the end of the Vietnam War eight years ago.

At the border, military sources said Thai ground forces were still unable to advance on the slopes of Phnom Pra.

Earlier reports said Thai troops had dislodged the Vietnamese and driven them back into Kampuchea.

A foreign ministry spokesman dismissed as lies a Vietnamese denial that its soldiers had crossed

into Thailand during the current week-old offensive against Kampuchean guerrilla bases along the border.

Bangkok has mounted a diplomatic drive to generate international condemnation of Vietnam's fiercest assault against the guerrillas since Hanoi's forces invaded Kampuchea in December 1978.

Thai officials said about 200 civilians, as well as five Thai soldiers have been killed during the offensive, which began last week. The Vietnamese casualty toll was not known.

Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda has said that Thai armed forces would not carry the fighting into Kampuchea, where Hanoi maintains an estimated

180,000 troops to support the Heng Samrin government in Phnom Penh.

International relief workers described the situation at the border as calm.

They said the number of casualties reaching internationally-run hospitals in the area had dropped and injuries were from land-mines and bullets rather than shells.

The United States announced it was providing \$1.5 million for emergency medical aid.

Under-Secretary Paul Wolfowitz, who visited the border, said the money would be given to the International Committee of the Red Cross and he urged other countries to give similar support.

Sao Paulo riots worst in Brazil for 3 years

SAO PAULO (R) — Children led looters ransacking shops when protests by people clamouring for jobs turned into Brazil's worst civil unrest for three years.

Television stations reported that a 63-year-old man was shot dead by a supermarket owner during a looting spree in one area of the city. But police were unable to confirm the reports.

Police used tear-gas in the centre of Sao Paulo Tuesday night as

looters — mainly small boys — swarmed through centre of Brazil's biggest city smashing shop windows and helping themselves to goods.

The trouble began on Monday in the suburb of Santo Amaro, where luxury mansions rub shoulders with sprawling slums, after several hundred jobless people protested against unemployment in the recession-hit city.

Up to 2,000 demonstrators rip-

ped out iron railing and stormed the grounds of the state governor's palace Tuesday. Riot police dispersed the stone-throwing crowd with baton charges and warning shots into the air.

The violence spread despite Governor Franco Montoro's appeal for calm coupled with a promise to create more jobs.

Police said more than 300 people were arrested Tuesday night.

As unrest spread through central and southern Sao Paulo, heart of an urban sprawl of 14 million people, politicians traded charges in congress that right and left-wing extremists were whipping up the trouble.

Governor Montoro, centre-left politician opposed to Brazil's military government, referred to "machinations" aimed against democracy.

NATO missiles lead Warsaw Pact agenda

VIENNA (R) — Warsaw Pact foreign ministers began a two-day meeting in Prague Wednesday and are expected to discuss a proposed non-aggression treaty with NATO and moves over nuclear missiles in Europe, diplomatic sources said.

The Soviet bloc, in line with custom, has not announced the precise dates for the session, but has said only that it will be in the first half of April.

The meeting was foreshadowed by a summit meeting in Prague last January of party and government

chiefs of the communist alliance, which groups the Soviet Union, Poland, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and East Germany.

They offered NATO a non-aggression pact and instructed their foreign ministers to begin work on it soon. The sources believed the current session might develop the proposal beyond the basic provisions outlined in a declaration at the Prague summit.

The Atlantic allies reacted warily, saying they would study the offer carefully.

The Prague meeting is also expected to endorse the Kremlin's rejection of President Reagan's compromise offer of an interim agreement on limiting the number of land-based medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe, the sources said.

Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko last Saturday dismissed the Reagan plan, which the president said envisaged leaving equal numbers of medium-range warheads in the hands of each superpower in the short term. The foreign ministers will also

hope to strengthen the resolve of Western peace movements which oppose NATO plans to base 572 cruise and Pershing II medium range missiles in Europe from later this year if Soviet-American arms reduction talks fail.

Kulikov blasts U.S.

MOSCOW (R) — The commander of Warsaw Pact forces, Marshal Victor Kulikov, said Wednesday the United States was preparing for another World War and counting on emerging from it victorious.

Soviet soldier allegedly shoots Afghan student

ISLAMABAD (R) — A Soviet soldier shot dead an Afghan student after an argument in Kabul last week and was rescued from an angry crowd by government troops, Western diplomats in Islamabad said.

The diplomats, who receive information from missions in Kabul, said in other incidents Muslim rebels in Kabul abducted an official of the ruling Communist Party and killed two suspected informers.

On Saturday rebels attacked a military post in southern Kabul. Resistance fighters took control

of much of the northern city of Mazar-i-Sharif near the Soviet Union on the Afghan New Year Day of March 21, the diplomats said. Two Afghan army divisions made house-to-house searches and later attacked suspected rebel bases in outlying areas.

In the town of Paghman, 15 kilometres northwest of Kabul, rebels severely wounded Maj. Gen. Mohammad Nabi Azimi, commander of the Afghan army's eighth division, when they fired a rocket at his jeep on March 16, they said.

TASS denies dissident died from maltreatment

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet news agency TASS denied Western reports Wednesday that a Georgian woman dissident died from maltreatment after being confined to a psychiatric clinic.

The reports, quoting Georgian dissidents, said Nati Shalamanuri was beaten for refusing to renounce allegations of injustices and corruption and died on Jan. 22.

TASS described the reports as "dirty insinuation" and a crude lie. It quoted a senior Georgian medical official as saying Shalamanuri had been interned last

August because she was suffering from acute hereditary schizophrenia.

The 42-year-old woman had died from stomach strictures caused by blockage from food.

TASS did not elaborate, but this appeared to coincide with reports from some dissident sources that Shalamanuri had staged a hunger strike and been subject to force-feeding.

The report said Shalamanuri and her mother were known to relatives and neighbours as acute paranoids and schizophrenics.

U.S. responds mildly to uproar about tennis star

WASHINGTON (R) — The State Department has declined to be drawn into a battle of words with China over a U.S. decision to grant asylum to Chinese tennis star Hu Na.

Peking charged that Hu's asylum request resulted from "entertainment and coercion" and said the decision would impair U.S.-Chinese cultural and sports exchanges and could adversely affect relations between the two countries.

State department spokesman John Hughes, pressed by reporters to answer Peking's statement, gave a low-key response at a routine State Department news briefing Tuesday.

"We certainly hope that it will not have any harm and will not adversely affect the relationship between the United States and China," he said, adding that the matter was handled in accordance with U.S. laws and procedures.

Malaysian cult broken up

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Police arrested 85 half-naked men and two women in a raid on a Chinese secret society initiation ceremony at an oil palm smallholding.

Police official Baharuddin Buyong said a police party carried out the raid at the smallholding 112 kilometres from here Tuesday night after receiving a tip-off.

The men, all clad in their underwear, were going through the

secret society entrance rites when the police party moved in, assistant superintendent Baharuddin said.

Several shots were fired but no one was injured when several members of the gang tried to run away, he said.

He did not disclose further details about the gang but said the anti-secret society division would be helping out in investigations.

Hunt on for Dutch gunman

DELFT, Netherlands (R) — Police set up a special squad Wednesday to search for a gunman who shot dead six people and wounded four others in a crowded cafe here Tuesday night.

Police told a press conference Wednesday the victims were four men and a woman and her 12-year-old daughter. Police said earlier that five had been wounded instead of four.

A spokesman said the suspect

being hunted by the special squad was believed to be a 27-year-old local man known to police for other minor offences.

Eyewitnesses said the incident began with an argument between two customers in the "koeisierje" (coachman) cafe in the centre of Delft.

They said one of the two left the cafe, returned shortly afterwards with a gun and shot the other dead before firing on other customers.

Shuttle flies flawlessly

KENNEDY SPACE CENTRE, Florida (R) — The new U.S. space shuttle Challenger flew flawlessly on its first two days in orbit while specialists tried to correct the path of a misdirected satellite considered vital to the shuttle programme.

"We are getting a much better experience on this vehicle than we might rightly expect and the crew is doing a tremendous job," flight director Gary Coen told reporters Tuesday night as Challenger made its 21st revolution of the earth.

While everything on board was going smoothly, scientists and technicians from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the air force and private industry worked on a

plan to get the communications satellite, the most sophisticated ever launched, into correct position.

The four astronauts went about their scheduled tasks Tuesday after being told that its booster rocket system had failed to send 2,300-kilogramme craft into a high enough orbit.

The crew launched the satellite and its booster, the main goal of the five-day mission, right on time about 10 hours after liftoff on Monday.

"Other than its orbit, the satellite is operating perfectly normally," Robert Smiley, tracking and data manager for the space agency, told a press conference Tuesday night.

Spectacular robbery shocks U.K. insurers

LONDON (R) — Insurers have offered a reward of £500,000 (\$750,000) to tempt the underworld to inform on the criminals behind Britain's biggest cash robbery.

An armed gang made a spectacular raid on a security firm's vaults on Monday and got away with £7 million (\$10.5 million) in used banknotes.

The assault on the London headquarters of Security Express eclipsed the previous record haul in 1963 of £2.5 million (then worth about \$6 million) from a mail train

— the so-called great train robbery.

In this week's raid, six hooded men got into the cash depositary by threatening to douse a guard with petrol and set him alight unless he cooperated, one of the staff told reporters Wednesday.

The gang, carrying shotguns, then tied up other employees as they arrived, plundered vaults full of money collected from stores and businesses for transfer to banks, and made off with the loot.

Bavaria takes hard line on communists

MUNICH, West Germany (R) — The West German state of Bavaria might ask the country's constitutional court to ban Communist Party members from government service, a senior official said Wednesday.

Bavarian Finance Minister Max Streibl said recent court decisions allowing members of the Moscow-oriented German Communist Party (DKP) to take civil service jobs showed a false understanding of liberalism.

His comments, published in the Bayernkurier newspaper, seem likely to rekindle a controversy over whether political "extremists" can be employed in the civil service.

"In as much as these decisions point towards a creeping erosion of the civil servant's duty of loyalty to the (state), it will become necessary to give the highest court the opportunity to decide whether they were constitutional," he wrote.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Kuwait approves anti-narcotics bill

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's National Assembly has approved an anti-narcotics bill rejecting the death penalty but doubling the prison sentence and fine for repeated drug offences. Under the bill, approved Tuesday, a first offence carries a prison sentence of 15 years and a fine of 15,000 dinars (\$50,000). A deputy said drug peddling did not justify the death penalty.

Assam violence claims more lives

NEW DELHI (R) — At least five people have been killed and more than 1,000 left homeless in a flare-up of violence in the northeast Indian state of Assam, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said. Armed gangs attacked several villages in the Goalpara district of Western Assam during the past two days, setting fire to houses, it said.

11 hurt in Amritsar violence

NEW DELHI (R) — Eleven people were injured in fresh violence Tuesday in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar, in northern Punjab, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said Wednesday. It added that the north Punjab city, headquarters of the militant Sikh Akali Dal movement, was calm Wednesday.

South Korean police chief steps down

SEOUL (R) — South Korea's top police officer resigned Wednesday to take responsibility for an incident in which a detained businessman died of brain injuries last month. A policeman has been charged with fatally beating the businessman, but the director-general of the national police headquarters, Ahn Eung-Mo, said he considered himself responsible for not preventing the incident.

17-year-old suspected of 5 murders

BRUSSELS (R) — Police have arrested a 17-year-old youth following the discovery of the bullet-riddled corpses of five members of his family in a small village in western Belgium, police sources said Wednesday. A decision on whether to charge him with murder was expected later, they said. Under Belgian law, minors are not necessarily charged formally with crimes. The bodies of his father, mother, grandmother, uncle and aunt were discovered at a house in Elverdinge, near Ypres, late Tuesday.

2 East Germans flee to West

WEST BERLIN (R) — Two East Germans hanging from a pulley on a self-assembled steel cable swung and slid over the Berlin Wall to West Berlin, the Berliner Zeitung "BZ" said. The newspaper said the two men, aged 24 and 23, climbed on to the roof of a house in East Berlin and fired a steel cable across the wall. On the other side a helper attached it to a car hidden behind a West Berlin house. Using a pulley the East Germans then hung on to the cable and crossed the wall to the West.

THE WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Ertson

By Ralph G. Beaman

DOWN

1. Liar

2. Hopalong Cassidy's bit

3. Skin problem

4. Snip

5. Certain secret

6. Increase

7. Elegant

8. MHC prof.

9. West film, for one

10. Pedestal base

11. Hunt

12. "I will come within" — wine

13. Hunt

14. "The — and I"

15. Walters of a sort

16. Soon

17. Royal her

18. Loose

19. Forbidden

20. First man on earth, to Polynesians

21. — of (Hilary)

22. Wire holding a meat

23. Standish the settler

24. Minute particle

25. Son of Leah

26. Draft animal

27. Pound abbr.

28. Gypsy name

29. — Abner

30. Impressive

31. Lounge

32. Rowlands of the screen

33. Current measure

34. Healing plant

35. Dacotah with AAA

36. Lila or Wain

37. TV clip

38. See 87A

39. Spotted at the circus

40. Least

41. Bernard or Louis

42. Scurvy

43. Scurvy

44. Scurvy

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